

May 13, 2016

TO: BLNR Chair Suzanne D. Case & Board Members

FR: Crystal F. West
[address redacted]

RE: Request to be admitted as a party in the contested case hearing for CDUP HA-3568 for the Thirty Meter Telescope in the Mauna Kea Lands, Ka'ōhe, Hamakua District, Island of Hawai'i, TMK (3) 4-4-015:009

I'm requesting to be admitted as a party to the above contested case hearing pursuant to Hawaii Administrative Rules §13-1-31. This request should be granted because: (1) Requestor has a property interest in the lands of Mauna Kea through the exercise of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices; (2) Requestor will be affected by the proposed Thirty Meter Telescope project and has an interest in the proceedings that are clearly distinguishable from the general public; (3) Requestor has a substantial interest in the proceedings; (4) Requestor's participation will substantially assist the board in its decision making; (5) Requestor's position is not substantially the same as any existing parties to the proceedings; and (6) Requestor's participation will add substantially new relevant information and will not make the proceedings inefficient and unmanageable.

Requestor's specific, substantial interests in the contested case proceedings also consists as follows: Mauna A Wakea is a sacred site which is significant to traditional and spiritual Hawaiian practices that continue today. Any and all physical alterations to said lands would have a negative impact on these practices for Native Hawaiians and other peoples worldwide. Any development industrial or otherwise will create adverse effects to the delicate ecosystem that exists atop Mauna Kea and nowhere else in the world. This includes plant life, insects, and valuable resources that cannot be found anywhere else and which are irreplaceable once disturbed or destroyed.

The presence of the TMT would create a terrible eyesore visible from most parts of Moku O Hawai'i and would not greatly serve the residence of Hawai'i.

me ke aloha pumehana,

Crystal F. West